From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 09:07:47 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 06:34:40 -0600
Message-Id: <9503091235.AA21352@kali>
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: 1934 SW Manual

That Official 1934 Short Wave Radio Manual which I have been talking about is in the current Antique Electronic Supply catalog. (Tempe, AZ.) They also have the Radio Craft 50 year edition, but the illustrations in that one aren't as good.

I'm going to call Lindsay Publications this afternoon and request a current catalog. I was looking at one from 1993 last night and saw several books I think I'd like (including a coil winding data one). We ought to get Mr. Lindsay on the List!

--Andy

P.S. -- A want. A shot in the dark! Anyone have a copy of Harper's Wireless for sale? When I was 15 I used to check a copy of this out from our local library. It's no longer there... This was from about 1914, and even had a chapter about wireless and the Titanic sinking. Lots of spark/coherer style circuits.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 23:59:03 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 21:26:47 -0600
Message-Id: <199503100223.SAA00559@hobbes.UCSC.EDU>
From: haynes@cats.ucsc.edu (Jim Haynes)
Subject: Anybody know a good place to get selsyns

cheap? I'd like to rig up a wind direction indicator. Of course this isn't quite a boatanchor, but I figured people who know boatanchors would probably know where to find selsyns.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 06:35:58 1995
Date: Fri, 10 Mar 1995 03:29:44 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9503100454.C28595-0100000@indy1>
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indynet.indy.net>
Subject: Re: Anybody know a good place to get selsyns

On Thu, 9 Mar 1995, Jim Haynes wrote:

> [...] I'd like to rig up a wind direction indicator. [...] people who
> know boatanchors would probably know where to find selsyns.

Betting there will be a chorus of this, but: Fair Radio Sales, PO Box 1105, Lima, OH 45802; (419) 223-2196 or 227-6573. Not only do they have

selsyns, synchros and (I do b'lieve) resolvers, they've got a listing on pgae 9 under the heading of "wind direction." The description's a bit sketchy, and it may just be a set of selsyns that'll run on 12V @ 60cps...but the rest of the project's straightforward enough! Fair is a good outfit, IMO.
H'mm, just above is a nice 3" aircraft 0-360 radio compass indicator, with the notation "adaptable for wind/antenna direction indication." No mention of what sort of juice it lives on--you might ask.

73,
--Bobbi

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 23:50:14 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 21:03:15 -0600
Message-Id: <199503100024.TAA07359@mocha.eng.umd.edu>
From: Philip Gwyinne McCoy <dgnova@glue.umd.edu>
Subject: BC-222

>Message-Id: <n1417377244.83554@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
>Reply-To: rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu
>From: "rohre" <rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
>Subject: Regenerative one tube transceivers

>All this talk brings to mind the BC 222 I had. It apparently was a pre WW II
>field set. The regen detector was a 30 Special, and a type 33 for audio amp
> and modulator.

>Radio Supply in San Antonio! As well as lots of 33's. The 30 was a triode,
>don't know what the diff was in standard type 30 and the 30S. Anyone know?
>Stuart K5KVH

The 30 Special had a micronol base (I think that was the material) anyway
it had reduces losses at Ultra Short Wave. (catch that old time talk)

Philip W3SAK

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 00:28:38 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 21:40:39 -0600
Message-Id: <9503100147.AA09829@cruncher.math.hawaii.edu>
From: jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu
Subject: Call For Beacon Custodians

Call For Beacon Custodians

I am proposing to the BA net a sequenced beacon network to operate on 1998.5 kc. The network will consist of 12 beacons, each sending their callsign within a 5 second interval every minute (the sequence will run on a 1 minute cycle). Each custodian will be responsible for starting his beacon at local sundown at the proper 5 sec interval to be determined via WWV/WWVH/CHU, and periodically throughout the evening, check to make sure he is transmitting within his alloted 5 second interval. We'll QRT at local sunrise.

Prior to responding to this notice please make sure that:

1. You can erect a dedicated and efficient 160M antenna (we are doing this propagation experiment as a service to the amateur and SWL community).
2. You can run a dedicated transmitter of at least 25W output.
3. You lead a boring life so you can stay home nightly to baby-sit your beacon (``Sorry Dear, we can't go dancing tonight unless we find a licensed sitter.''). *
4. You can construct an accurate timing system to ID during your proper interval (I'll be using a 1 rpm clock motor turning a large enough disk so that my call can fit; I might use an optical reader of some sort). I propose no `DE' nor `/B' be send since 5 seconds is a tight fit.

* I've contacted the FCC regarding beacons on 160M and the response was that no automatic control of beacons is permitted below 28 Mc. Thus, we'll have to baby-sit these pups nightly.

Jack, our listowner, expressed interest in this some time back so I'll let him be the Southern U.S. custodian if he's still interested.

Here's what I propose as the sequence:

Seconds	QTH
:00-:04	Hawaii
:05-:09	West Coast US
:10-:14	Southern US
:15-:19	Southeastern US
:20-:24	East Coast
:25-:29	New England
:30-:34	Great Lakes
:35-:39	Midwest
:40-:44	Somewhere in the vast region of Canada
:45-:49	Alaska
:50-:54	Maybe Dave in Australia (the land of sinking race boats ;-)
:55-:59	up for grabs

Don't immediately respond to this notice. You have to be honest with yourself as to whether you can be a responsible beacon owner. I'd like the system to be operational within 6 months. As soon responses start coming in we can set up a mail alias amongst ourselves. If there are more than 11 others interested than maybe we can consider running this system on a 2 minute cycle. It would be nice to get some European and South Pacific folks in on this too (assuming they can legally operate on this freq).

This system is the no-frills version of the NCDXF's 14.1 Mc worldwide system. I propose xtal controlled BA transmitters (I'll be using an old marine band xmtr).

PLEASE let me know if I've chosen a bad freq (within some window); we can push it to 1999 kc if you send your ID fast enough!

Once the system is activated I'll send notices to QST and the other mags.

73 from Hawaii,
Jeff NH6IL (ex WA6QIJ)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 02:26:52 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 23:55:46 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950310154148.29561B-100000@eram.esi.com.au>
From: Dave Horsfall <dave@esi.com.au>
Subject: Re: Call For Beacon Custodians

On Thu, 9 Mar 1995 jeffrey@math.hawaii.edu wrote:

> :50-:54 Maybe Dave in Australia (the land of sinking race boats ;-)

Sabotage, that's what it was...

Seriously, I can't remember where our 160m band pegs out (shame on me!) but I don't think it goes as high as even 1.9 ... I think we _can_ run unattended beacons on 160 tho' (we have several slow-CW beacons on 80).

I happen to be the custodian of the VK2RSY beacons in Sydney and also of the Amateur broadcast station VK2WI - perhaps I can put our 500W AM transmitter to good use when it's not otherwise being used :-)

> PLEASE let me know if I've chosen a bad freq (within some window);
> we can push it to 1999 kc if you send your ID fast enough!

We _certainly_ can't go that high; I'll check out a few things and get back to you. This sounds like fun.

--
Dave Horsfall (VK2KFU) | dave@esi.com.au | VK2KFU @ VK2AAB.NSW.AUS.OC | PGP 2.6
Opinions expressed are mine. | E7 FE 97 88 E5 02 3C AE 9C 8C 54 5B 9A D4 A0 CD

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 00:01:35 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 20:53:37 -0600
Message-Id: <199503092134.QAA12922@altair.cs.unc.edu>
From: Nick England <nick@cs.unc.edu>
Subject: Charlotte Hamfest get-together ??

Charlotte NC hamfest is this Saturday.
Wear your "BA" badge.

Several of us will be monitoring 147.42 MC

Gather at table H34 (green sign saying "Wanted - Heathkits, etc.")
at 11:45 to eyeball and brag about the big ones that got away.

Nick KD4CPL ("Mr. Heathkit" cap and "Real Radios Glow in the Dark" T-shirt)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 23:49:23 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 20:59:15 -0600
Message-Id: <9503011327.AA03802@mirage>
From: mirage!pamars@uhura.neoucom.EDU (P.A.Marshall)
Subject: Re: Crosley Shortwave receiver question

rohre writes:
>
> Any help
> appreciated, as I do not have a Rider's manual, or schematic, etc. If there
> was a schematic pasted inside, as some old radios had, it may have been partly
> peeled off as another reason I may have not dug into it more.
>
> Stuart K5KVH, rohre@arlut.utexas.edu
>

If you can come up with a model number it should be possible to get a copy
of the schematic. Just having a *real* close idea and the tube line-up may
allow it to be pinned down.

Al Marshall   "Real Radios Glow in the Dark"   almarshall@acm.org

As nightfall does not come at once, neither does oppression. In both
instances, there is a twilight when everything remains seemingly unchanged.
And it is in such twilight that we all must be most aware of change in the
air--however slight--lest we become unwitting victims of the darkness.
Justice William O. Douglas

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 15:14:18 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 12:13:30 -0600
Message-Id: <F39C1611.F39C1624@mail.admin.wisc.edu>
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu
Subject: Diversity Reception

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Hello Steve.

For your particular application, diversity reception isn't all that difficult. You're dealing with AM broadcasters, and extremely tight oscillator sync between receivers obviously isn't necessary; just tune 'em both to the same frequency, and away you go.

With what I'm trying to do (RTTY and digital mode reception), that method WILL work (I've done it), but it gets to be a handfull at times. I'd guess that the oscillators have to be tuned so that the audio outputs to the demod are within 10 Hz or closer. In the prescence of drifting transmitter frequency, it gets to be a real zoo in a big hurry!

The diversity device you were alluding to is an audio coupler. Essentially, the outputs of both receivers are fed to it, along with AGC voltage samples. The gadget essentially looks for the biggest signal between the two (as indicated by largest AGC voltage), and feeds the corresponding audio signal to the output. My demodulator, a Universal M-7000, has the audio coupler built in; that fact was the thing that hooked me on the idea of diversity reception to begin with.

I wish I had the space for diversity Beverages! As it is, I am working with polarization diversity; one receiver tied to a horizontal antenna, and the other tied to a vertical. It's amazing how much trash the technique can correct in the copy. Anyone who has observed RTTY signals on a scope can tell you that fading on HF can get so selective that it will take out a MARK signal, but leave the SPACE alone. With a diversity setup, it quickly becomes apparent that much of the lost data is actually still there; it just flipped polarization!

73's,

Mr. T., K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 02:50:14 1995
Date: Fri, 10 Mar 1995 00:12:19 -0600
Message-Id: <199503100601.WAA29083@netcom14.netcom.com>
From: cole@netcom.com (Randy Cole)

Subject: FS: HP 410C RF Voltmeter

I have an HP 410C RF voltmeter for sale, with the AC probe but without a manual. It's in good cosmetic condition, and seems to agree well with my other 410C and my scope, at least up to 50 MHz which is as high as my signal generator and scope will go. The DC readings agree with my Fluke digital. It sometimes won't quite zero normally on the lowest AC scale (.5V full scale), but you can zero it on that scale with the meter zero screw if you need really accurate measurements. One of the DC probes and the common lead alligator clip could stand replacing.

It's rated up to 700 MHz, and I was blown away to find that they cost $1700 in 1984. Tucker is selling them for $195, down from $395, although I'm sure Tucker provides calibration and a manual. I'm asking $75 plus shipping, guaranteed against DOA.

If you're interested, please reply to cole@netcom.com, otherwise I might miss your reply among all the Boatanchors messages.

Randy Cole
KN6W
cole@netcom.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 00:01:45 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 21:00:47 -0600
Message-Id: <9503092057.AA13615@wrdis01.robins.af.mil>
From: lakeith@wrdis01.robins.af.mil (Larry Keith)
Subject: HQ-110A Guru needed..

The new addition to the shack is a Hammarlund HQ-110A.. A quick check shows that it is working.. But, it has a couple of minor problems.

Does anyone have a -110A manual that could be copied or bought? And, I am in need of the Calibration Control Knob... Yes, the little one..8-)

Tnx for any assistance..

73,

Larry, KQ4BY

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 00:42:45 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 22:01:39 -0600
Message-Id: <9503100011.AA11289@red-eft.la.ca.us>
From: "Hugh D. Stegman" <driver8@red-eft.la.ca.us>

Subject: Re: Jag

> XK140C [or was it a CM]

Fixed head, C-Jag undersquare 6-in-line engine, some electrical mods. Brakes not real good. The car was geared to haul Alpha on those California country roads, but you wouldn't want to go too deep into the turns and if you did you were guaranteed blisters and sore shoulders.

Pardon the off topic post but there seems to be interest. OK, it did have a tube radio in it. Didn't work real well. There was a vibrator power supply. You'd turn on the ignition and the fuel pump would go tick tick tick, then you'd WHOOOOOOOOOOM and then while you were warming up you'd turn on the radio, bzzzzzzzzzzzzzz, and a few minutes later music might come out.

This is the one that you couldn't drive in traffic at all. The engine was way oversize for the stock XK140 cooling system. No electric fan. The temp and oil pressure guages shared the same hole, and when you could smell that distinctive unhappy-Jaguar smell and see the water temp start reading in PSI, time to hang a U and floor it in the other direction. "But officer, you know what a pain it is to change those blown bottom water hoses."

I still have most of my old tube radios, but a guy in Orange County owns the Jaguar now.

Of course tube radios and British sports cars attract the same people. If you ever worked on a Lucas electrical system you know why.

Hugh

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 01:49:40 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 23:20:19 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.SGI.3.90.950310001654.15039A-100000@umbc7.umbc.edu>
From: Bill Robie <robie@umbc.edu>
Subject: Re: Jag

"Of course tube radios and British sports cars attract the same people. If you ever worked on a Lucas electrical system you'd know why."

I heard that Lucas designed the Brit. refrigerators--and that explains the scarcity of cold beer. :-)

Bill

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 05:39:05 1995
Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 23:49:43 -0600
Message-Id: <950308131116_71333.144_DHQ55-1@CompuServe.COM>
From: don merz <71333.144@compuserve.com>
Subject: Manuals (Mostly Copies)

For Sale: Offers and trades are welcome.

CONTACT: Don Merz, N3RHT: 47 Hazel Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15228.
412-234-8819.
71333.144@compuserve.com

LATEST ADDITIONS

These are the latest additions to a lengthy list posted on Compuserve in HAMNET Library 10 in the file RADIOS.TXT.

BOATANCHOR MANUALS

RCA ACR-136Receiver. Clean photocopy. $8
Hallicrafters Skyrider 23. Fair photocopy. $6
Measurements (Boonton) 79B Pulse Generator original. Mint. $6
Hallicrafters SX-96. Excellent copy. $8
Lysco 500/600. Complete, excellent manual copy. Partial original manual schematic, various magazine reviews and mods. $8
National NC-300 photocopy. First page is missing. $3
Hallicrafters HT-32A original large fold out schematic. Good: $4
Hallicrafters SX-101 Mark III fair photocopy: $5
Collins 51J3 Sams photofact copy, copy orf articles from Collins Collectors Magazine on 51J-series, connection diagrams from 51J manuals. $4
Preceision 640 tube tester original: $3

WANTED

Military BC-669 manual

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 12:14:09 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 09:13:12 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.LNX.3.91.950309080019.23251F-100000@thelair.zynet.com>
From: johnb@thelair.zynet.com
Subject: Master Mobile matching device (fwd)

>John!   A great find! Where is this wonderous junk shop anyway?

I've described this place, but its been a couple of years. Its called Electronic Surplus, and is located on Central Avenue (Old Rt 66) in east Albuqerque. Its a family run place, and the owner, Dave, is also a great guy to talk with about performance cars (he has 35 project cars on his property, so he's a packratus emeritus)

Albuquerque is/was home to Kirtland Air Force Base (now closing... a loss of 7,000 direct jobs) and Sandia Labs of the DOE. They generate a LOT of salvage, that is available at quite reasonable prices. Dave gets a lot of stuff from them, but seems to be a magnet for surplus of all types. He's been in operation for at least 10-12 years, and its a BA goldmine.

Some famous quotes heard at the store:

"Its not just shopping, its an ADVENTURE!"

...or this discussion between a customer who had called about an item before driving down:

" Hi! I called about the hydrospanner a few minutes ago"

" Yes, sure! "

" Do you know where they are?"

" No "

" I thought you said you had them??!!"

" I know we DO, but I have no idea where they ARE!"

This is a hands-on place, with narrow aisles of stuff piled well beyond safe capacity. An unwary move will cause a lanslide, but one wont have to worry about paying for any damage from such a misstep.

There are shelves full of multi section electros, bins and bins of meters, caps, resistors, wafer switches, connectors, knobs junk, crystals, variable caps, junk, hardware, microphones, bulbs, junk, fuses, wire (I've bought NOS DCC here.... 99 cents a boxed spool!.. no there isnt any more at the present), just about everything you might want for projects. All of this stuff is out so you can paw thru it, and prices are REALLY reasonable for most items. Tubes are a bit pricey, but a place up the

> street has quite a few for sale priced from a 1970 catalog! (so
> why did I buy and "stock" 3-4,000 tubes in my garage!!!??).
>
> WIthout this store, BA-ing would be a BIG problem. If you're ever
> in Albuquerque, consider giving ME a call, and for sure go
> by Electronic Surplus. Bring your want list, and steel toed
> boots! THe power transformer area is dangerous!
>
> What is YOUR favorite BA supplies haunt?!
>
> John wb5oau
>
> PS: My best find there. I have a Viking Mobile that had a broken
> wafer switch... it was easy to find a similar wafer (# of contacts
> and form factor) but the REAL find was a bag of the miniature
> rivets (NOS) used to hold the contacts to the wafer. An afternoon
> of dremel work resulted in a rebuilt bandswitch wafer.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 12:58:18 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 09:58:35 -0600
Message-Id: <F3995850.F3995903@mail.admin.wisc.edu>
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu
Subject: Master Mobile tuner

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Re. Master Mobile motorized tuner:

I too have one of these gizmos, waiting to be put into use.

I've been thinking about modifying mine a bit. My thing is homebrewed 160 mobile antennas, and what's needed there is a coil between the whip and ground that the transmitter coax can be tapped up for best match.

It appears to me that the Master Mobile is meant to be inserted in series between the coax and antenna, more for the purpose of moving the antenna's resonant frequency than for matching impedances. This, of course, assumes that he mobile whip's base impedance is 50 ohms to begin with. I've found the hard way that in reality there ain't no such beast as an off the shelf 50 ohm mobile whip!

I've seen a good bit of praise for Hustler products here. I'm not impressed.

First, install the antenna per instructions, and measure the base impedance. If it's 50 ohms, or even within 15% of that figure, I'll eat the damned thing! A Hustler is better than no antenna at all, but my TS-140S won't run into one without VSWR foldback seriously limiting output power. Sure, it's only a solid state import, not a REAL transmitter, but what the hey; it oughta play right!

Not all of us wanna install a classy firebottle rig in the mobile that can deal with a minor VSWR problem.

Second, try transmitting for awhile, especially with a 75 or 80 metre resonator up top. Then, feel the loading coil. Warm, isn't it? Nothing like deicing your mobile antenna with RF heating. You didn't really NEED all those watts as a radiated signal, now did you?

Third, if you live in snow country, DO NOT buy the Hustler tiltover mast! It works OK when it's clear, dry, and warm, but in the winter the joint fills with water which freezes, expands, and splits the sleeve which holds the antenna erect, eventually rendering the whole mast useless.
Mr. T., K9TA

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 00:42:59 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 22:05:26 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.87.9503092016.A6437-0100000@agora.rdrop.com>
From: Art Moe <artmoe@agora.rdrop.com>
Subject: need info WL 5736

Can anyone help with info on Westinghouse WL 5736 (firebottle).

...-.-
73's
Arthur Moe   Oregon City, Or
A.R.S. KB7WW   45-19-22 N 122-36-37 W   CN85
artmoe@agora.rdrop.com   At the end of the Oregon Trail

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 06:41:47 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 04:05:20 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9503090313.A6941-0100000@indy1>
From: "Roberta J. Barmore" <rbarmore@indynet.indy.net>
Subject: Re: Oscillodyne 1934 homebrew rx

On Wed, 8 Mar 1995, Stephen M. Linscott wrote:
 [Quoting Andy to begin:]
> >And finally, would a string of 10 9V batteries do for plate voltage? That
> >[...] would be cheaper than homebrewing a supply [...].
>
>   Why not back-to-back filament xfmrs from Radio Shack, rectified, filtered,
> and feeding a VR90? [...]

One simple reason: Tuneable hum, a particular bane of regen sets with line operated supplies, rather similar to the problem direct-conversion receivers have with common-mode hum, though the problem seems to be mostly harmonics of the power line getting coupled out of the PSU.

It's usually not all that "tuneable." Instead, it shows up when the set is oscillating or right on the verge. The classic fixes are using a seperate cabinet for the PSU, quality transformers with a good electrostatic shield, and heavy bypassing, usually .006mF on the secondary, the rectifier output, and the B+ rail, though even all of that doesn't always do the trick. It can take a lot debugging effort sometimes; better to start out with batteries and get the radio working first!

...Someone else mentioned the proper connection of magnetic headphones when hooked betwixt plate and B+. Older cans will have a red (sometimes white) tracer in the cloth insulation of the tinsel-cord lead that goes to the B+. You really can't solder it unless you wrap the tinsel cord with some very tiny tinned wire--a single strand from stranded hook-up wire is ideal.

And old *crystal* 'phones should *never* have the B+ connected across them--not only can it harm them, there's usually no DC continuity through them! They won't survive a trip to the floor unscathed, either--I've a set of Brush-Clevite cans that are awfully quiet on one side to prove it. :(

73,
--Bobbi

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 11:35:18 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 08:29:27 -0600
Message-Id: <199503091428.IAA04049@uro.theporch.com>
From: "Stephen M. Linscott" <LINSCOT@ricevm1.rice.edu>
Subject: Re: Oscillodyne 1934 homebrew rx

On Thu, 9 Mar 1995 04:18:09 -0500 (EST) you said:
>
>On Wed, 8 Mar 1995, Stephen M. Linscott wrote:
> [Quoting Andy to begin:]
>> >And finally, would a string of 10 9V batteries do for plate voltage? That
>> >[...] would be cheaper than homebrewing a supply [...].
>>
>>   Why not back-to-back filament xfmrs from Radio Shack, rectified, filtered,
>> and feeding a VR90? [...]
>
>   One simple reason: Tuneable hum, a particular bane of regen sets with
>line operated supplies, rather similar to the problem direct-conversion
>receivers have with common-mode hum, though the problem seems to be mostly
>harmonics of the power line getting coupled out of the PSU.

I guess I have been lucky. I ran an RA-DA and a Radiola Jr. with A.C. supplies, with no hum problems. I used a 4-section choke input filter to a VR tube. I put .005's across the electrolytics, and from A.C. line to ground. Of course, the supplies were in separate boxes. Isn't it against the law to run an A.C. line within 3 feet of a regen chassis? :-)

73 de W5EGP   - Steve -

```
*****************************************************************
*    Steve Linscott, Divisional Consultant - Natural Sciences    *
*    IS User Services         Rice University, Houston, Texas    *
*****************************************************************
```

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 13:10:48 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 10:08:17 -0600
Message-Id: <m0rmkap-000046C@next3.acme.ist.ucf.edu>
From: clarke@acme.ist.ucf.edu (Thomas Clarke)
Subject: Re: Oscillodyne 1934 homebrew rx

The simplicity of the regen is very appealing, I may have to try one, battery powered, of course.

What types of tubes are best, very old (01A), middle old (37), not so old (6C4), or just a little old (6CW4)?

High mu, low mu, or multi-grid preferred?
What about the battery filament tubes, 1U4 and the like?

Tom Clarke
KE4VFH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 14:18:26 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 11:33:31 -0600
Message-Id: <v02110101ab84df7a5784@[140.243.30.128]>
From: steve@hi.com (Steve Byan)
Subject: Re: Oscillodyne 1934 homebrew rx

On the subject of homebrew regens, what do youi think of the firebottle regen design that was featuired in QST a while back? Is a good design and worth building?

Regards,
-Steve

Steve Byan   internet: steve@hi.com
Hitachi Computer Products (America), Inc.
1601 Trapelo Road   phone: (617) 890-0444

```
Waltham, MA 02154                          FAX: (617) 890-4998



From boatanchors@theporch.com  Thu Mar  9 14:48:48 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 11:49:11 -0600
Message-Id: <2F5F33FA@sharkgate.sandiegoca.attgis.com>
From: "Kenan, Larry" <llk@sandshark.sandiegoca.ATTGIS.COM>
Subject: Re: Oscillodyne 1934 homebrew rx


 On Wed, 8 Mar 1995, Stephen M. Linscott wrote:
  >And finally, would a string of 10 9V batteries do for plate voltage? That
  >[...] would be cheaper than homebrewing a supply [...].


 That works.




 On the other subject of connecting the headphones through a capacitor to
this radio:
 That only works if you are using high impedance headphones. Antique phones
are
 generally 2000 ohms. Modern ones are usually low impedance like a
loudspeaker(8 ohms).
 If you have only the low impedance phones then use an audio output
transformer
 to couple the plate circuit to them.




 Larry Kenan

From boatanchors@theporch.com  Thu Mar  9 22:38:30 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 13:01:59 -0600
Message-Id: <9503091932.AA121419@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>
From: rdkeys@csemail
Subject: Re: Oscillodyne 1934 homebrew rx

>
> The simplicity of the regen is very appealing, I may have to
> try one, battery powered, of course.
>
> What types of tubes are best, very old (01A), middle old (37),
> not so old (6C4), or just a little old (6CW4)?
>
> High mu, low mu, or multi-grid preferred?
```

> What about the battery filament tubes, 1U4 and the like?
>
> Tom Clarke
> KE4VFH
>

Basically it makes no real difference. Triodes load down a bit more than pentodes. A 6SJ7 or a 6SK7 makes the almost ideal detector. But anything will work, even the battery tubes. You just have to proportion the feedback properly for plate tickler coils to suit. If you are using a pentode, a standard electron coupled Hartley oscillator is quite good.

I usually use 6J5's as the all around replacement for the '01A type triodes of the 20's.

Hi/Lo-mu really does not make that much difference in regenerative detectors, in my hands.

Battery tubes can be a bit more finicky to work with and subject to more hum pickup than indirectly heated tubes.

Of most importance is proper grid leak bias, and proper grid coupling capacity, followed by proper input coupling. The rest is junque boxe.

Use a standard octal relay socket with screw terminals and screw it down to a breadboard. Use thin aluminum sheet behind a 1/8 or 3/16 or 1/4 inch black plastic ``semi-real'' bakelite panel and away you go. I find the precut/pre-finished imitiation shelves in woodgrain about 8 inches deep and 24 inches long make a very nice base that is easy to work. Standard stair tread is quite good, and usually flat and knot free. I have used Phillippine and Spanish mahogonies for interesting looks. Some fellas used clear glass in the old days for ``low-loss'' panels. Nowadays I substitute good clear acrylic sheet for glass.

I have always thought an acorn would be interesting to use, and in the 30's they were used up to 1-1/4 meters quite effectively.

One time I used a 211 tube with 24 volts on the plate for a test. It worked just fine as a regenerative detector. I may get up the nerve to try one of my 833's...... (:+}}....., or maybe a UV-204A!

Basically it's use whats yas gots ans runs with the beastie.....(:+}}....

73/Bob/NA4G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 02:13:39 1995

Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 23:27:40 -0600
Message-Id: <9503090529.AA23633@texan.frco.com>
From: bill@texan.frco.com (William Hawkins)
Subject: Push both buttons to destroy

Anybody out there ever involved with boatanchors containing destruct charges? I had a red box with two recessed pushbuttons, labelled "Push both buttons to destroy" from the early '50's. I remember a photo showing a small cylinder inside a radio with the caution to stay away from it. Seems like the charge(s) would have to be very carefully sized to destroy the set without blowing the panel into the person pushing the buttons - but maybe the buttons were located away from the set. What kind of set would have had that extraordinary protection? The early R390 Technical Manuals had instructions on how to destroy the set, but you had to work at it, not just press two buttons. It'd be nice to know the name of the explosive and the method used to initiate it - not because I'm building bombs, but because I used to work with explosive initiators 30 years ago. Any references appreciated.

Bill Hawkins

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 05:29:26 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 00:50:38 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.PCW.3.91.950308203944.6815A-100000@dip001.pixi.com>
From: Dave Creek <dcreek@pixi.com>
Subject: Re: Push both buttons to destroy

On Wed, 8 Mar 1995, William Hawkins wrote:

> Date: Wed, 8 Mar 1995 23:27:40 -0600
> From: William Hawkins <bill@texan.frco.com>
> To: Multiple recipients of list <boatanchors@theporch.com>
> Subject: Push both buttons to destroy
>
> Anybody out there ever involved with boatanchors containing destruct
> charges? I had a red box with two recessed pushbuttons, labelled
> "Push both buttons to destroy" from the early '50's. I remember a
> photo showing a small cylinder inside a radio with the caution to
> stay away from it. Seems like the charge(s) would have to be very
> carefully sized to destroy the set without blowing the panel into
> the person pushing the buttons - but maybe the buttons were located
> away from the set. What kind of set would have had that extraordinary
> protection? The early R390 Technical Manuals had instructions on how
> to destroy the set, but you had to work at it, not just press two
> buttons. It'd be nice to know the name of the explosive and the

> method used to initiate it - not because I'm building bombs, but because I used to work with explosive initiators 30 years ago. Any references appreciated.

The only equipment I remember with destruct charges were the APX-6 IFF RT units. This was in the early 50's. There were two or three wells on the front of the unit designed to hold electricly initiated thermite capsules to melt the cavities in the RF section. I never saw the capsules since the equipment had been declassified by then, but the Tech Orders gave directions for installing them and wiring the circuit.
I remember seeing the box you mention and also an impact switch box. One old technician told me the impact switch had been removed since it actuated on hard landings and melted the cavities.

The only other device I was aquainted with was a metal box about 19 X 24 X 3 inches with two hand grenade fuses and two electric initiaters on the front edge. These were filled with thermite and designed for destroying rack mounted electronic equipment.

Dave Creek, NH6BA
Ewa Beach, HI

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 08:21:27 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 05:56:05 -0600
Message-Id: <950309065721_44056722@aol.com>
From: JosephWP@aol.com
Subject: Re: Push both buttons to destroy

Bill,

I seem to recall that the WWII IFF (Identification Friend Foe) set BC-645 (if I recall correctly) had self destruct built in. I believe that it was a thermite bomb which destroyed the set with its intense heat.

I also know that in Vietnam and Cambodia, some of the radios supplied to local tribes by CIA et al had self destruct mechanisms built in. You pressed the button while holding the transmit switch. The ones that I know of were made by Hallicrafters and were AM sets in the 30 - 40 Mc range.

Joseph Pinner +
Lafayette, LA
KC5IJD
EMail: josephwp@aol.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 10:49:12 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 07:57:20 -0600
Message-Id: <9503091424.AA120338@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>

From: rdkeys@csemail
Subject: Re: Push both buttons to destroy

> I seem to recall that the WWII IFF (Identification Friend Foe) set BC-645 (if I recall correctly) had self destruct built in. I believe that it was a thermite bomb which destroyed the set with its intense heat.

All of that material ``should'' have been removed before being sent back to depot level storage or surplussing, after the war.  I have heard a ``rumor'' or two that a few may have been released with the bomb still there, so it might be worth taking care with, around any BC-645's that one might encounter, BEFORE powering the beast up. (I can't imagine why anyone would want to power one up, these days.)

> I also know that in Vietnam and Cambodia, some of the radios supplied to local tribes by CIA et al had self destruct mechanisms built in. You pressed the button while holding the transmit switch. The ones that I know of were made by Hallicrafters and were AM sets in the 30 - 40 Mc range.

I picked up one of those Nam ``CB'' sets at a hamfest a few years back and was very curious about the ``destruct'' button. There is no bomb inside, just a direct short across the HV that blows everything in sight when the button is pushed. Simple, but effective. It bypasses the fusing and zaps anything in sight like resistors, filaments, etc, with direct 110vac.

Anyone have a circuit diagram or manual for that Nam ``CB'' set?

It might be fun to see if it can be made to play on 10 meters.

73/Bob/NA4G

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 12:10:51 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 09:31:13 -0600
Message-Id: <9503091526.AA23930@uvs1.orl.mmc.com>
From: padgett@tccslr.dnet.mmc.com (A. Padgett Peterson, P.E. Information Security)
Subject: RE: Push both buttons to destroy

>Anybody out there ever involved with boatanchors containing destruct charges? I had a red box with two recessed pushbuttons, labelled "Push both buttons to destroy" from the early '50's. I remember a photo showing a small cylinder inside a radio with the caution to stay away from it.

Cannot identify specifically but if I were to make a SWAG, my guess would be magnesiun/thermite. Cannot say why it would be in a radio unless fixed frequency but was standard equipment for fire control (not the kind that puts out fires), targetting/guidance, & crypto gear "in harm's way".

Warmly,
Padgett

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 12:24:00 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 09:24:23 -0600
Message-Id: <950309102638_44176553@aol.com>
From: JosephWP@aol.com
Subject: Re: Push both buttons to destroy

Bob,

I have the Hallicrafter's manual for one of those sets.

Joseph Pinner +
Lafayette, LA
KC5IJD
EMail: josephwp@aol.com

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 13:03:40 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 09:53:31 -0600
Message-Id: <199503091556.AA28978@eceserv0.ece.wisc.edu>
From: beyer@eceserv0.ece.wisc.edu (James B. Beyer)
Subject: Re: Push both buttons to destroy

>Anybody out there ever involved with boatanchors containing destruct
>charges? I had a red box with two recessed pushbuttons, labelled
>"Push both buttons to destroy" from the early '50's. I remember a
>photo showing a small cylinder inside a radio with the caution to
>stay away from it.

Bill,

I was an electronics tech. aboard ship in the Navy in those years. The only gear we had in that category was IFF (Identification Friend or Foe) I had to have a Secret clearance to maintain it, fortunately I never had to press the buttons. The charges were small and contained in a metal cylinder in the center of the gear which was accessable from the front panel, I doubt that they would have done anything but destroy the circuitry. (I had a lot of faith in those years)

73,
Jim Beyer W9ADJ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 13:10:42 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 08:22:20 -0600
Message-Id: <2F5F3A8B@pcgateway.netrix.com>

From: cgould <cgould@netrix.com>
Subject: RE: Push both buttons to destroy

I worked on KY-XX , (name with held) , units in the NAVY, those self destruct circuits had a couple of TO-3 looking canisters that look like transistors. They contain a small amount of nitro glycernin in them. Depending on the size of the unit, they may be stand-alone or attached to some kind of plastik lined around the components. They would be electrically detonated , during Vietnam, we usually disabled alot of these ckts, because they had a tendency to go off, some of them if your close, you could get injured, depending on how much they used and how bad they wanted it destroyed. Be carefull.....
73 Chuck, N4YXW

>From: boatanchors
To: Multiple recipients of list
Subject: Push both buttons to destroy
Date: Wednesday, March 08, 1995 11:27PM

Anybody out there ever involved with boatanchors containing destruct charges? I had a red box with two recessed pushbuttons, labelled "Push both buttons to destroy" from the early '50's. I remember a photo showing a small cylinder inside a radio with the caution to stay away from it. Seems like the charge(s) would have to be very carefully sized to destroy the set without blowing the panel into the person pushing the buttons - but maybe the buttons were located away from the set. What kind of set would have had that extraordinary protection? The early R390 Technical Manuals had instructions on how to destroy the set, but you had to work at it, not just press two buttons. It'd be nice to know the name of the explosive and the method used to initiate it - not because I'm building bombs, but because I used to work with explosive initiators 30 years ago. Any references appreciated.

Bill Hawkins

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 15:00:05 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 11:59:40 -0600
Message-Id: <m0rmmZa-0004GWC@aupair.cs.athabascau.ca>
From: tech@cs.athabascau.ca (Richard Loken)
Subject: Push both buttons to destroy

Years ago I worked with an old guy who did Lancanster maintenance during WWII. He told me that as part of the between mission maintenance they would disconnect the IFF box and hook a lightbulb to the connector then press the destruct button in the cockpit to test its continuity. One day he neglected to disconnect the IFF box first and the normally rectangular box became a sphere. They must have put those things is one tough box, (and it predates the DX100 by ten years :)).

```
  Richard Loken VE6BSV, Systems Programmer - VMS   : "...underneath those
  Athabasca University                   : tuques we wear, our heads
  Athabasca, Alberta Canada              : are naked!"
  ** tech@cs.athabascau.ca **                      :    - Aurthor Black
```

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 00:02:53 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 20:59:55 -0600
Message-Id: <9503092330.AA21985@kali>
From: Andy Wallace <wallace@mc.com>
Subject: RE: Push both buttons to destroy

All this talk about destroying IFF units makes me think of the movie DR. STRANGELOVE. Remember the scene where what's-his-name was reading from the manual and setting the IFF unit in the cockpit? That looked pretty nifty...

And I'm still wondering what the National-PW-dial-equipped radios were in the plane in the movie AIR FORCE, from about 1943........

--Andy

P.S. I've been calling Lindsay Publications at 1-815-935-5353, which Inflammation says is the right number, but getting just ring or busy so far. It turns out my last catalog was from '93 and I want to get a new one ... then probably blow a paycheck on the shortwave reprints. (grin)

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 00:19:12 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 21:33:43 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9503091918.A2696-0100000@ozarks>
From: "C. Frank Gilmore" <fgilmore@ozarks.sgcl.lib.mo.us>
Subject: Re: Push both buttons to destroy

Back about fifteen to twenty years ago a rather significant amount of gear came into civilian hands that still had the thermite intact. Warnings were posted in a couple of the magazines at the time.

..

Ft. Leonard Wood is not far from here and a local buyer of weird quantities of weirder things came into some test equipment that had the thermite in it. He was scare out of his wits. I had explosive device training in some seminars when I was a cop so very carefully removed the "guts" and took them to a safe place and yes the thermite was still very hot!!

..

In the sixties Army MARS received some BC-312N receivers that had

explosives in them....not thermite.....don't know the substance. Couple of dozen were issued to members before it was realized and they were quickly picked up by special reps from the government.
..
So if it says destruct....don't push it. I am sure some of that stuff is still lying around in back rooms and garages. Kind of like the fellow who died in '68 and his wife called the sheriff's dept I was working for at that time and said she had a case of hand grenades. She was cleaning out his old WW II lock boxes and sure enough there was a box containing four variations of US grenades plus some German, French, and British types. And yes....they were hot too! We had fun out at the range wiring them and trying them...carefully of course. I deactivated one and made a lamp out of it.

Back to my flu medicine.....

73, de K0JPJ ex-W5PVX ...-.-

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 00:57:08 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 22:02:42 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9503092117.B7766-0100000@Mercury.mcs.com>
From: Bruce Haffner <haffner@Mcs.Net>
Subject: Re: Push both buttons to destroy

The destruct button was also used on the Eureka AN/PPN-1 & AN/PPN-2 beacon transmitter as shown in TM 11-1140A & 11-1145 It does not say what kind of explosive it used. Bruce WD9GHK

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 13:55:53 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 10:45:00 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950309094731.10832A-100000@eiger.ceet.niu.edu>
From: Steve Berg <berg@eiger.ceet.niu.edu>
Subject: Re: Push both buttons to destroy (fwd)

---------- Forwarded message ----------
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 07:07:57 -0600 (CST)
>From: Steve Berg <berg@eiger.ceet.niu.edu>
To: William Hawkins <bill@texan.frco.com>
Subject: Re: Push both buttons to destroy

When I was off in that Great Society Program in S.E. Asia in the late 1960's I spent some time at a radio relay site with the First Air Cavalry Division LRRPs. We had some secure, scrambled radios there with thermite grenades sitting on top of them. Since the place had been overrun by Jane Fonda's bosom buddies several times in the recent past, we were supposed to set off the thermite as a last ditch measure to keep the equipment from falling into the "wrong hands". It would be easy to set up a thermite charge as you have described, with an electric fuse, triggered by the two push buttons and a small battery.

73,

Steve WA9JML

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 14:52:42 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 11:46:08 -0600
Message-Id: <9503091735.AA24945@uvs1.orl.mmc.com>
From: padgett@tccslr.dnet.mmc.com (A. Padgett Peterson, P.E. Information Security)
Subject: Re: Push both buttons to destroy (fwd)

Stop me if I've said this before...
>From: Steve Berg <berg@eiger.ceet.niu.edu>
>When I was off in that Great Society Program in S.E. Asia in the late 1960's
..
>Since the place had been overrun by Jane Fonda's bosom buddies several times
>in the recent past,

Was an R306mop0 assigned to the USAF Security Service in SEA about that time, used to be sent in odd places to install/remove/destroy crypto/comm equipment because was fast and didn't need the T/Os. Often a company of ROKs went along. Welcome since where they were, the opposition usually wasn't. Question always was "If we get overrun, who are they supposed to shoot ?"

Warmly,
Padgett

ps when everyone caries automatic weapons, people tend to be polite...

pps ObBAHack: Looks like about 820 ohms at 5 watts is a good 50A1 replacement in a 600.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 22:25:00 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 13:25:40 -0600
Message-Id: <m0rmngn-000049C@next3.acme.ist.ucf.edu>
From: clarke@acme.ist.ucf.edu (Thomas Clarke)
Subject: Re: Push both buttons to destroy (fwd)

>because was fast and didn't need the T/Os.

```
                                       ^^^^^
>                            Warmly, Padgett
```

I thought for a minute you were going to tell us about an obscure factory variant TO that had the dual destruct buttons :-)

Seriously, I was too chicken to tell the Army about my FCC First Phone. I figured I'd wind up with a radio on my back with an antenna sticking up saying "shoot here."

Tom Clarke
KE4VFH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 11:54:08 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 09:00:24 -0600
Message-Id: <F3990031.F3990046@mail.admin.wisc.edu>
From: TOM.A.ADAMS@mail.admin.wisc.edu
Subject: R-390A with relays

to: boatanchors@theporch.com

Hello Dan, N8ETQ.

VERY interesting re. those Manson modified or built R-390As you encountered.

What you're looking at here is something I've never seen, but I suspected existed; R-390As set up to serve as either Masters or Slaves in diversity reception systems! I would LOVE to lay my hands on two of these critters; this would probably be the ULTIMATE setup for RTTY snooping / DXing.

I know that a contemporary of the R-390A, the SP-600JX-- (higher number versions) had a diversity Master / Slave version; I had one once (it didn't work too well. It was pretty beat up and worn out).

Tho the "no mods!" folks will probably scream for my crucifixion, I've got to admit that I have a pair of straight R-390s, stuck in a 6' rack with speaker panel, antenna coupler, etc. which I've attempted to modify for M/S diversity. Results have been mixed, mainly due to the fact that I've been looking for the cheap and easy ways to synchronize the oscillators, while at the same time trying to keep the amount of radio cutting to a minimum. I've gotta admit that the rear panels, not in great shape to begin with, are REALLY a mess now, and there's quite a bit of RG-171 mini-coax in both radios that wasn't there when the radios left Collins! It would be nice to at least see one of those R-390As, just to see how a pro did the job.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 14:57:27 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 11:43:09 -0600
Message-Id: <v02110103ab84e0bfa3e1@[140.243.30.128]>
From: steve@hi.com (Steve Byan)
Subject: Re: R-390A with relays

I'm interested in setting up a space diversity system using two Beverages and two R390A's for reception of the African tropical band broadcasters. I had thought that all that was needed for diversity reception with the R390A was to tune to the same frequency, wire-OR the AGC outputs, and sum the audio line outputs.

Mr. T. writes:

> What you're looking at here is something I've never seen, but I suspected existed; R-390As set up to serve as either Masters or Slaves in diversity reception systems!

Is it necessary to synchronize the oscillators for diversity reception of AM signals, or is this just needed for something when driving a 455 kHz RTTY demodulator?

I've heard talk of a special piece of gear for diversity reception using R390's; anyone have any info on this?

Thanks,
-Steve

Steve Byan   internet: steve@hi.com
Hitachi Computer Products (America), Inc.
1601 Trapelo Road   phone: (617) 890-0444
Waltham, MA 02154   FAX: (617) 890-4998

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 12:56:29 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 09:49:54 -0600
Message-Id: <199503091551.HAA10802@netcom10.netcom.com>
From: rmccarty@netcom.com (roger mccarty)
Subject: Ranger/Viking Mods Wanted

Anchorites,

Looking to gather as many tried and true Modifications to the Johnson Ranger and Viking line of Transmitters. I would like them for my personal use, and then to compile them for distribution on request or Faq.

Please E-mail what you have to rmmcarty@netcom.com. Copies, upon completion, to be distributed to all contributors.

If this has already been done, how 'bout pointing me in the right direction?

Thanks

Roger KD6CC

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 10:02:19 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 07:20:35 -0600
Message-Id: <"Macintosh */PRMD=MOT/ADMD=MOT/C=US/"@MHS>
From: Scott_Johnson-AZAX60@email.sps.mot.com
Subject: RE>Re- Push both buttons to

Reply to: RE>Re: Push both buttons to destroy

I believe only the early APX-6/APX-29 used the squibs, as the later panels don't even have a provision for them. Early IFF relied on frequency changes rather than coding for secrecy, hence the thermite in the cavity section. When the APX-25 coder was addes to the APX-6, the need for the charges went away.

73, Scott KC7BGE

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 13:23:53 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 10:30:53 -0600
Message-Id: <n1417377244.83554@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
From: "rohre" <rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: Regenerative one tube transceivers

All this talk brings to mind the BC 222 I had. It apparently was a pre WW II field set. The regen detector was a 30 Special, and a type 33 for audio amp and modulator.

Mine came perfect with diagram in lid, but without battery box. I made a wooden box to fit the bottom, which was held on by the existing canvas straps. Somehow I put about an 8 foot whip on my bicycle, and this thing hung on the hangle bars, by another canvas strap, and I was on or around 10 meters, AM VFO! Maybe some debate about whether it was AM or FM or both!. Powered it with flashlight cells on filaments, and seriesed discards from 45 volt telephone test set batteries our friendly local lineman would leave beside the big phone box in the alley.

It was the hit of the Novices in the high school ham club! I was all of a general class, so figured why not trade it off for something of value! Oh if I still had it. Even found the last 30 special spare tube for it at old Modern Radio Supply in San Antonio! As well as lots of 33's. The 30 was a triode, don't know what the diff was in standard type 30 and the 30S. Anyone know? 73, Stuart K5KVH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 12:55:53 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 10:09:05 -0600
Message-Id: <n1417378574.6820@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
From: "rohre" <rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: Spline shafts and mechanical parts

Re the ARC aircraft radio spline shaft substitute query.

If you are unable to locate originals, I once had to replace a flexible shaft on a scientific tape recorder, and found that motorcycle speedometer cable was the exact length for my need. I was able to machine adapters for the ends for the purpose.

Many mechanical parts can be ordered from Small Parts Inc. in Fl, I believe. That is another source of gears, drive parts, etc. You might nose around the flying services at local airports, especially if they have some antique airplane hobbyists, as you might find suitable hardware in the scrap bin.

I remember those shafts were in short supply even in the 50's,
don't know why.

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 00:15:13 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 21:15:30 -0600
Message-Id: <n1417360396.99845@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
From: "rohre" <rohre@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: Surplus Haunts, ah yess!

John,
I do make it to Albuquerque and Central Av, but usually to the jewelry places in Old Town. Will have to go further east next time.

Gosh! Your favorite spot sounds like one that was in San Antonio"s Southside in my ham youth. An old warehouse next to a power plant, with naked bulbs over tables piled with stuff. Never got to what was under the tables even! There were a couple of other surplus places a little more conventional living off Kelly AFB. One place had lower prices for the items stacked in the yard outside. Found a mud puddle one day that had a nice box with knobs I wanted in it. Got it home and it had a silver plated cavity in it when that was a big find. Also one 6J6 I used for years in various regen projects. If things were not in the MFP packing, they were cheaper. one day in the back corner of the building we found these cardboard boxes in a bigger box "meters"-- unpacked sealed audio Db meters, ruggedized and got them for 50 cents each. Still have them, and work well.

Currently we do not have anything but commercial surplus outlets around Austin, but some good stuff, in IC's and non RF parts. Needed a box for QRP project, got nice two tone blue one with circuit and dozen led's on it for $2. They gave me some surface mount boards, as they had no economical way to salvage the parts. They do salvage boards for normal sized good Ic's etc. This place is Howard's just off Longhorn Blvd. and on back road out of Pickle Research Campus in north Austin.

Some distributors here have surplus on occasion. Largest of these is Altex Electronics, also in San Antonio. They mine the commercial manufacturing over runs from computer companies like Datapoint. Not too many bargins, except items they don't have time to put on computer inventory. So we watch for those with NIV labels. You kind of negotiate your price on those, depending on how familiar the clerk is with what they are. (Better deals close to closing, like 2 minutes before.)

Pardon the bandwidth, but I like to hear about the good old places. What about Silicon Valley? First place I ever saw convenience stores also selling electronics parts! 73, Stuart K5KVH

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 04:19:12 1995
Date: Fri, 10 Mar 1995 01:42:52 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9503092313.A26746-0100000@netcom12>
From: paul Veltman <veltman@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: Surplus Haunts, ah yess!

> I do make it to Albuquerque and Central Av, but usually to the jewelry places in Old Town. Will have to go further east next time.

I'm going to have to figure out a way to get to Albuquerque. This place needs exploration.

> Pardon the bandwidth, but I like to hear about the good old places. What about Silicon Valley? First place I ever saw convenience stores also selling electronics parts!

You know when you're in Silicon Valley when the billboards are advertising Pentium chips and wierd VSLI stuff.

Actually, there are a number of places around here. As you may expect, most sell computer overruns. There is one place up at the Oakland Airport called Mike Quinn Electronics. That is what I'd call a "real" surplus store. You have to step over piles of stuff on the floor, and nothing is priced. You hold it up and tell one of the guys what you'll

pay for it, and then discuss it for a while. All the other places have
gone out of business up there in Oakland. When I was kid, I could just
about walk over there.
Down in the Valley, there is Haltek, Halted, and Alltronics. Alltronics
is a fairly good place down on Zanker Road, but it's mostly computer.
These 3 also show up at the fleas with goodies. There was one place
called Wierd Stuff Warehouse, but I haven't seen their billboard on 237
in a while, so I wonder if they're still there.
Then there is Surplus Stuff. Mostly computer, no boatanchors or
military. Conservatives get a 10% discount here, and since it is the
local Rush Limbaugh headquarters, they charge liberals a 15% surcharge.
Anyway, that's the Silicon Valley surplus scene. Really, none of the old
style military surplus stores.

73

Paul WA6OKQ

From boatanchors@theporch.com Thu Mar 9 15:21:46 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 12:19:38 -0600
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9503091141.A28401-0100000@mesa5.Mesa.Colorado.EDU>
From: "James P. Rybak" <jrybak@mesa5.mesa.colorado.edu>
Subject: The "Best" CW Receiver

>From the standpoint of copying cw, what receivers (transceivers or stand
alone receivers) either in current production or available on the "resale"
market are considered to be among the "best"? I know that there is a
certain amount of subjectivity involved in this but I am interested in
finding the consensus, if there is one.

Thanks

Jim W0KSD

From boatanchors@theporch.com Fri Mar 10 00:08:53 1995
Date: Thu, 9 Mar 1995 21:08:46 -0600
Message-Id: <9503092056.AA121768@csemail.cropsci.ncsu.edu>
From: rdkeys@csemail
Subject: Re: The "Best" CW Receiver

>
> >From the standpoint of copying cw, what receivers (transceivers or stand
> alone receivers) either in current production or available on the "resale"
> market are considered to be among the "best"? I know that there is a
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> finding the consensus, if there is one.
>
> Thanks

>
> Jim W0KSD
>

Before flame wars and religious zealots get into the act, I will offer the following based upon my 25 years on watch at the key. It is only my findings, and do not represent those of others.

Bob/NA4G

Ten Tec is probably the best --- bar none. I hear this repeatedly among CW operators (I mean the good ones, and not the guys that once in a while use the key). The ones I have used over the years (7 different models) were all excellent on CW, except for the PowerMite.

Collins is probably the second best. The commercial ones are good, but scarce and expensive. The R388/390/392 are all good. I prefer the ease of tuning of the R-388. The R-390 requires a case of Harley-Leg or Collins-Wrist to tune (they were designed to not tune easy, since most uses required precision frequency resettability). The R-392 is good, but not the most stable of the lot, and tubes are hard to keep in the beast and getting harder to find.

Mackay is probably the third best. It is made for CW commercial operations and does that VERY well.

Racal is next. I have never used these but heard folks liked them.

Hammarlund is fourth (SP-600). This is a good one, generally.

HRO's are fair to mittling, but not really good. The HRO-60 is probably the best. The HRO-500 is a real beast to work on but relatively good on CW.

My regennies are next (Navy RAL). A cadillac CW receiver, bar none, but it has ZERO dial calibration (a 0-1000 logging scale). The audio filtering/tuning/passbanding puts modern DSP stuff to shame..... at least the ones I have heard on the air. If you can handle the strange knobbies and dial scales, it is a fine CW receiver. I have used four of them for 25 years, now and still use it as the main CW receiver. I would not do that if it could not handle the CW.

Kenwoodies and the like next (TS-140/TS-440/TS-430 etc.). They receive fairly well, but the filtering leaves a lot to be desired. I listen to NMN, WLO, WCC, etc on the Kenwood mostly these days. It makes a good frequency meter (AKA BC-221-Kenwoodie) but not a good CW receiver. The high end Kenwoodies are good, but no better than the Collins or Ten Tec gear.

It depends a lot upon what you want the receiver to do.
If you just want CW, any GOOD regen trf set will do very nicely.
Some wwII gear is good, but most is moderate to mediocre on CW.
ARC-5's are the worst CW receivers in the world, but fun to play with.
The RBM is fair, but the dials are poor and the tuning way too fast.
The shipboard navy stuff is the best of the WWII gear. The models RBB and RBC are quite good, as are my treasured RAL/RAK's.
BC-312/314/342/344/348 are all fair to good, only. They work, but are not anywhere near as good as the Navy stuff. Of these, I prefer the BC-342, because the tuning is a little more accurate. The bandsbread is best on the BC-348, but dial calibration is weak. The crystal filters in these require rather careful setup and alignment to make them work properly.

Commercial marine gear is quite good, usually, and much better than most ham stuff. Any Mackay/ITT or RMCA gear is usually pretty good. The ones I have used were always designed with CW in mind, right? The Mackay MF receiver that I use on 600 meters is as good as my RAL, and much better than any Kenwoodie I have used. My WWII RMCA receivers are great on CW, but tune rather fast for modern times.

Those be my opinions and experiences.

If I had to choose one good CW receiver, these days, I would probably go with a Ten Tec for ham use or a Mackay 3030 or 3040 for general use.

Since I can't afford either (although I just missed a Mackay 3030 for 300 bucks at a recent hamfest), I will be happy to stick with the ol' trusted RAL or R-388.

73/Bob/NA4G